REMARKS

This application has been amended so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The Official Action objects to claim 35 as to an informality, and further rejects claims 35-38 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Underlying both the objection and rejection are identified passages in claim 35. The present amendment amends claim 35 to eliminate the bases for both the objection and rejection, the reconsideration and withdrawal of which are therefore respectfully requested.

The Official Action withdraws the previous indication of allowability as to claims 35-38. Underlying this withdrawal is the rejection of claim 35 under 35 USC \$102(e) as being anticipated by KITSUKAWA et al. In addition to the anticipation rejection of claim 35, the Official Action rejects claims 36 and 37 as unpatentable over the same reference, and claim 38 as unpatentable over a combination of KITSUKAWA et al. and CAMPBELL, JR. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections are respectfully requested for the following reasons:

Claims 1-21 remain in condition for allowance. The present amendment cancels claim 35, and amends each of claims 36-38 to ultimately depend from allowed independent claim 1. Such amendment, together with the explicit allowance of claim 1, should place all claims remaining in the application in condition for immediate allowance.

Application No. 09/697,503 Docket No. 8013-1091

If the Examiner has any questions or requires further clarification of any of the above points, the Examiner may contact the undersigned attorney so that this application may continue to be expeditiously advanced.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Eric Jensen, Reg. No. 37,855

745 South 23rd Street Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone (703) 521-2297

Telefax (703) 685-0573 (703) 979-4709

EJ/lk